

Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-10 RSC-01

CG-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 CEQ-02

COA-02 COME-00 EB-11 EPA-04 IO-14 NSF-04 SCI-06

FEA-02 ACDA-19 AEC-11 AGR-20 DOTE-00 FMC-04 INT-08

JUSE-00 OMB-01 DRC-01 /262 W
----- 080343

R 251635Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5490

C O N F I D E N T I A L DUBLIN 0378

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR

SUBJ: LOS: PROGRESS REPORT

REF: STATE 055339

1. WE ARE AIRPOUCHING (BY TRANSMITTAL SLIP, REF THIS CABLE)
COPY OF MAP AND GOI ORDER CLAIMING NEW AREA OF CONTINENTAL
SHELF. DISCUSSED QUESTION MARCH 22 WITH RAPHAEL SIEV, ASSIS-
TANT LEGAL ADVISER IN FONOFF. HE TOLD US THAT, IN MAKING
NEW CLAIM, IRISH HAD THOUGHT IN TERMS OF TWO-HUNDRED-MILE
DISTANCE FROM COAST, THOUGH THIS IS NOT MENTIONED IN OFFICIAL
ORDER. SIEV SAID THAT IRISH PREFERRED TO THINK IN TERMS OF
DISTANCE RATHER THAN DEPTH BECAUSE DISTANCE IS SO MUCH EASIER
TO MEASURE IN A POSITIVE WAY. WE COMMENTED THAT USE OF
DISTANCE CRITERIA ALSO SEEMED TO PRODUCE A MUCH MORE EXTEN-
SIVE CLAIM. (WE DID NOT MENTION THAT DISTANCE CRITERION
HAD BEEN APPLIED IRREGULARLY, BUT THIS APPEARS TO BE TRUE,
SINCE CLAIMED AREA HAS BOUNDARY WHICH DOES NOT CORRESPOND
CLEARLY TO SHAPE OF COASTLINE. AT FARTHEST POINT, CLAIMED
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AREA IS NOW SAID TO EXTEND ABOUT 195 MILES OFF COAST.)

2. DURING SAME CALL, EMBOFF ALSO SPENT CONSIDERABLE TIME REVIEWING ALL OF DEPT'S RECENT GUIDANCE ON LOS MATTERS. LEFT BACKGROUND PAPERS AND TALKING POINTS. SIEV WAS VERY INTERESTED IN OUR POSITIONS, AS HE WAS IN PROCESS OF DRAFTING IRISH POSITIONS. EMBOFF WAS ABLE TO ANSWER SOME QUESTIONS, BUT WE BELIEVE A SPECIALIST VISITOR COULD DO VERY USEFUL WORK, ESPECIALLY IF VISIT COMES SOON -- BEFORE POSITIONS HARDEN.

3. SIEV SAID THAT IRISH DEL WILL CONSIST OF AMB CON CREMIN, SIEV, SEAMUS O'MEALLAIN OF FISHERIES, AND ABOUT FOUR OTHERS FROM DIFFERENT GOVT DEPTS, PLUS GEOLOGISTS.

4. IRISH ARE CLEARLY TAKING SUBJECT SERIOUSLY, CONSIDERING THEIR SMALL SIZE AND LIMITED MANPOWER. SORENSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LAW OF THE SEA, MEETINGS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974DUBLIN00378
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740063-1031
From: DUBLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740319/aaaaaqzl.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION DLOS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 055339
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 MAY 2002 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <04 FEB 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LOS: PROGRESS REPORT
TAGS: PBOR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005